

Report of the East North East Area Leader

Report to East Inner Area Committee

Date: Tuesday 3rd September 2013

Subject: Inner East Priority Neighbourhoods Update April 13 – September 13

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Gipton & Harehills Killingbeck & Seacroft		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. A programme of neighbourhood management is being implemented across the priority neighbourhoods of Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton, Harehills and Seacroft.
2. This report provides an overview of the activities which have been taking place against the priorities outlined in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIPs) since April 2013.
3. Projects delivered in the priority neighbourhoods since April are highlighted in the attached appendices, along with resources which have been levered into the area, current challenges and details of the activities which Neighbourhood Managers will be focussing on for the next six months.

Recommendations

4. Inner East Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and comment as appropriate.

Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Inner East Area Committee with an overview of activities undertaken by in priority neighbourhoods by Neighbourhood Managers to address Neighbourhood Improvement Plan priorities.

2 Background information

- 2.1 A programme of neighbourhood improvement in priority neighbourhoods has been on-going in Inner East Leeds for some time now. A Neighbourhood Manager post for Gipton and Seacroft was established utilising Safer Stronger Communities over six years ago. Following the success of this pilot, the Gipton & Seacroft Neighbourhood Manager post was continued to be funded through Inner East Area Committee Wellbeing funds. Subsequently, it was decided to create Neighbourhood Manager posts for Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, in October 2010, and Harehills, in March 2013. Again, these are funded through Inner East Area Committee Wellbeing budget.
- 2.2 The rationale behind the priority neighbourhood approach is to put in place a Team Neighbourhood ethos and get organisations, from the public, private and voluntary sector, working better together to avoid duplication of efforts and deliver quality services for local residents. This is also underpinned by the Community Leadership Team (CLT), which provides a reality check from local people to ensure that services are meeting local needs. It is now more important than ever for Team Neighbourhood to be working effectively due to the current economic climate which has resulted in reduced service budgets and a lack of available grant funding opportunities.
- 2.3 A key role of the Neighbourhood Manager is to develop an annual Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. The priorities of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP) are developed through use of statistical analysis from annual Neighbourhood Index profiles for the Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs) which cover each priority neighbourhood and through consultation with Ward Councillors, the local community and partner organisations. The Neighbourhood Improvement Plans are approved annually by the Area Committee. Update reports on activity are presented regularly to Councillors through the production of ward trackers for Ward Member briefings. Detailed summaries are presented on a six monthly basis to the Area Committee in September and March.

3 Inner East Priority Neighbourhoods Update April 13 – September 13

- 3.1 Attached to this report are four appendices providing detailed updates on activities which have been undertaken in each priority neighbourhood. The reports provide an overview of progress made to date against the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans, which were approved by Inner East Area Committee in March. The report also highlights additional resources which have been secured as well as any blockages or difficulties which the Area Committee needs to provide support to resolve. There is also a section included on priorities for the coming six months which the Neighbourhood Managers will focus on.
- 3.2 The section below provides a few highlights of key achievements delivered in each priority neighbourhood over the last six months, along with some of the current

challenges in each of the neighbourhoods. More detail is covered in the appendices, numbers of which are listed next to each priority neighbourhood:

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill (Appendix 1)

Successes

- Summer holiday activities for young people: 84 activity sessions were commissioned for young people to participate in over the summer holidays, all taking place at venues within the ward.
- Ebor Gardens IT Suite: Installation is complete of the new IT Suite at Ebor Gardens Community Centre. The IT provision has jointly been funded by the Inner East Area Committee and the GMB.
- Burmantofts Gala: The inaugural Burmantofts Gala took place on 30th June. The first gala was hailed as a success with over 1000 in attendance. The event also acted as the finale to Leeds Refugee Week.
- Haselwood Bin Solution: A new refuse and recycling system has been installed in Haselwood Mews and Haselwood Green. This scheme has addressed over 10 years of refuse collection issues.
- Community Leadership Team: BRH Community Leadership Team continues to go from strength to strength. On average of 35 community members attend each meeting, engaging in local decision making and increasing their confidence in service provision where they live.

Challenges

- Employment: lack of local people being employed through major opportunities such as Trinity. How can we get local people to access the opportunities and what are the blockages?
- Bin Collections: still on-going problems with refuse collections which are undermining the work in the Environmental Improvement Zones
- Grass Cutting / Grounds maintenance: this is an increasing issue linked to private and orphan land and becoming increasingly time consuming to resolve

Gipton (Appendix 2)

Successes

- Gipton opportunity shop opened in June 2013. This initiative is jointly funded through Inner East Area Committee and GIPSIL. The opportunity Shop offers employment advice, volunteering opportunities, skills and confidence building in the heart of the community. To date, the opportunity shop has generated the following outputs: 30 people have attended, 2 people had entered work experience placements, 2 people had entered volunteer placements, 2 People have entered volunteer placements with GIPSIL, 2 People have gained apprenticeships with GIPSIL, 2 people have taken up training opportunities and 1 person had gained full-time employment
- There is a newly established Gipton Health Improvement Group (HIG) to assess the needs of the community. The inaugural meeting with partners has identified the following priorities:- Free School Meals uptake, oral health, smoking reduction and physical activity. The HIG will meet regularly to address the priorities, promote existing services and introduce alternative methods of working to meet community needs.

Challenges

- Service Review: How will service delivery reviews, such as the ALMO coming back into Leeds City Council, affect the community?
- Youth Funding: How this money will be split on a ward level and how projects will be commissioned
- Community Engagement: Getting more people involved in community activity and the Community Leadership Team

Harehills (Appendix 3)

Successes

- Harehills traders group has been established to support the business community in Harehills Lane and agencies are providing additional resources to tackle the crime and ASB issue raised from this forum. Harehills is earmarked to be a priority pilot area with Trading Standards to address the issues of illegal tobacco and alcohol.
- The Hovingham youth HUB has been launched with a celebration event, the centre is now engaging with large numbers of young people on a regular basis and has run additional sessions throughout the Ramadan period.

Challenges

- Community Cohesion: Work is needed promote and develop community cohesion across the area and supporting community groups to work in partnership to meet the needs of the community
- Community Engagement: The creation of the CLT is more challenging due to the lack of existing groups and residents associations to draw upon for membership.
- Service Review: How will service delivery reviews, such as the ALMO coming back into Leeds City Council, affect the community?

Seacroft (Appendix 4)

Successes

- The OIL motor project opened its doors in April 2013. The project has so far had 40 pre and post 16 learners through its doors. The Project has provided the Opportunity for young people to have the vocational experience of motor cycle mechanics in a safe environment, with qualified staff.
- S.T.A.R Summer play scheme at Dennis Healy Centre has been open to young people for four weeks of the summer holidays. The scheme is run wholly by volunteers and funded from the profits of the bingo sessions held in the community every two weeks. The scheme has seen an average of thirty young people attending each day, with most of the children returning for the whole of the four weeks.

Challenges

- Asset Review: Potential changes in ways services are being delivered. Also maximising the use of current community assets and potential for different management arrangements at these centres.
- Youth Funding: How this money will be split on a ward level and how projects will be commissioned
- Service Review: How will service delivery reviews, such as the ALMO coming back into Leeds City Council, affect the community?

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 An integral part of the work in the priority neighbourhoods is to ensure that local people are involved with and consulted on the activities taking place where they live. There are currently three Community Leadership Teams (CLTs) established and operational for Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton and Seacroft. Work is underway to form a CLT for Harehills.
- 4.1.2 Annual Neighbourhood Surveys are also undertaken in the priority neighbourhoods. It is anticipated that the neighbourhood surveys will be undertaken again in the Autumn due to the high number of returns received earlier in the year.
- 4.1.3 Other community engagement and consultation methods will also be looked at to ensure that all elements of the community are engaged with. For example, it is acknowledged that specific consultation needs to be undertaken with young people and some BME groups who aren't represented on the CLTs. This is particularly important in Inner East where new migrant communities are emerging, which has been highlighted in the recently produced Census 2011 data.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 As part of the project planning process for the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP), a light touch equality impact assessment is undertaken. This highlights any potential equality implications linked to the implementation of the NIP allowing actions to be built in to avoid any negative impacts on the community.
- 4.2.2 Work has been undertaken through the Community Leadership Team to ensure membership is as representative as possible covering all aspects of the local community. Information about the CLTs and the NIPs has also been distributed via the Leeds City Council Equality Hubs.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 Activities undertaken through the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans in the priority neighbourhoods go towards meeting all the priorities outlined in the City Priority Plan of:
- Best City.....for Health & Wellbeing
 - Best City.....for Children & Young People
 - Best City.....for Business
 - Best City.....for Communities
 - Best City.....to Live
- 4.3.2 Activities delivered through the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans also contribute towards achieving priorities outlined in the Council Business Plan 2011 – 2015 and the ambition of becoming the best City Council in the UK.
- 4.3.3 Work undertaken via the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans is an integral part delivering the Inner East Area Committee Business Plan. This is produced on an annual basis and outlines what the Area Committee aims to achieve over the next 12 months.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The Inner East Area Committee invest funding each year to employ three Neighbourhood Managers to develop and implement a Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the priority neighbourhoods. This is an additional resource and without this investment, a limited amount of activity would take place in the priority neighbourhoods. The agreement to continue to fund the Neighbourhood Manager posts is currently in place until March 2015. Six monthly feedback reports, in March and September, have been agreed to be provided to the Area Committee to demonstrate the value for money of these posts.
- 4.4.2 Area Committees provide funding support to priorities identified through the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan from Wellbeing funds. Neighbourhood Managers try to secure funding from other sources to match fund the Wellbeing investment. It is acknowledged that this is becoming increasingly more difficult due to the reduced number of grant programmes and increased demands on these resources. Additional resources which have been levered in over the past six months are highlighted in the appendices on each of the priority neighbourhoods attached to this report..

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.
- 4.5.2 There is no exempt or confidential information contained in this report.
- 4.5.3 There are no key decisions associated with this report, so it is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 Any potential risks in relation to activities being undertaken by the Neighbourhood Managers as part of delivering Neighbourhood Improvement Plan are identified through the project plans which are produced prior to implementation of activities. The project planning process allows contingency plans to be considered to mitigate any potential risks.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 This report has highlighted key successes delivered over the past six months but it is acknowledged that there is still a way to go to resolve some of the on-going issues within the priority neighbourhoods. The challenges section has provided the Area Committee with an overview of some of the blockages which are preventing progress made against NIP priorities.
- 5.2 Neighbourhood managers continue to work on putting together sustainable solutions for on-going issues in the priority neighbourhoods, rather than just focussing on quick wins that may not deal with the core of the issue.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Inner East Area Committee are requested to note this report and ask questions as appropriate.

7 Background documents

- 7.1 Inner East Area Committee NIP Report – March 2013